IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method in a data processing system for tracking relationships between programs and data, the method comprising:

receiving a file access request from a particular program, wherein the file access request is for a particular file and is received at an operating system level and wherein the particular file is defined by a specified file name;

creating an association between the specified file name and the particular program requesting the file access, in response to receiving the file access request; ~~and~~

responsive to creating the association, storing the association between the specified file name and the particular program, wherein the association is used for subsequent accesses to the file and is stored in relation to other stored associations, said other associations respectively corresponding to each of the other ~~such that a stored association is stored for each~~ file names for which file access is requested by the particular program; and

saving all of the stored associations for at least the life of the particular program.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the association is stored as meta data.~~ said method includes accessing a database containing each of said stored associations to find the file names and locations of all of the data and configuration files associated with the particular program.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the association includes a program name for the program.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the association further includes at least one of a location of the file, a time of file access, a date of file access, an extension for the file, and an identification of a user of the program.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the location of the file is in a remote data processing system.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the file request is one of a request to open the file, close the file, copy the file, or delete the file.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the program is a first program and wherein a request to open the file originates from the first program and a request to close the file originates from a second program.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the association includes the second program.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the receiving step, the ~~identifying~~ creating step, and the storing step are performed within an operating system kernel.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the receiving step, the ~~identifying~~ creating step, and the storing step are performed within a device driver.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the drive driver intercepts calls directed to a mechanism used as a point of entry for the access.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the storing step comprises:
storing the association between the file and the program in a database.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein associations are stored in a database and further comprising:
receiving a request from a requestor to access the associations;
querying the database for the associations;
receiving a result from the database; and
returning the result returned from the database to the requestor.

14. (Cancel)

15. (Cancel)

16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the storing step comprises:

storing the association between the file and the program in at least one of a registry, file, and a file system.

17. (Cancel)

18. (Cancel)

19. (Cancel)

20. (Cancel)

21. (Cancel)

22. (Currently Amended) A data processing system for tracking relationships between programs and data, the data processing system comprising:

receiving means for receiving a file access request from a particular program, wherein the file access request is for a particular file and is received at an operating system level and wherein the particular file is defined by a specified file name;

creating means for creating an association between the specified file name and the particular program requesting the file access, in response to receiving the file access request; ~~and~~

storing means responsive to ~~creating~~ creation of the association~~, storing means~~ for storing the association between the specified file name and the particular program, wherein the association is used for subsequent accesses to the file and is stored in relation to other stored associations, said other associations respectively corresponding to other

~~such that a stored association is stored for each~~ file names for which file access is requested by the particular program; and

means for saving all of the stored associations for at least the life of the particular program.

23. (Original) The data processing system of claim 22, wherein the association is stored as meta data.

24. (Previously Amended) The data processing system of claim 22, wherein the association includes a file name for the file and a program name for the program.

25. (Original) The data processing system of claim 24, wherein the association further includes at least one of a location of the file, a time of file access, a date of file access, an extension for the file, and an identification of a user of the program.

26. (Original) The data processing system of claim 25, wherein the location of the file is in a remote data processing system.

27. (Original)The data processing system of claim 22, wherein the file request is one of a request to open the file, close the file, copy the file, or delete the file.

28. (Original) The data processing system of claim 22, wherein the program is a first program and wherein a request to open the file originates from the first program and a request to close the file originates from a second program.

29. (Original) The data processing system of claim 22, wherein the association includes the second program.

30. (Currently Amended) The data processing system of claim 22, wherein the receiving means, the ~~identifying~~ creating means, and the storing means are located within an operating system kernel.

31. (Currently Amended) The data processing system of claim 22, wherein the receiving means, the ~~identifying~~ creating means, and the storing means are located within a device driver.

32. (Original) The data processing system of claim 31, wherein the drive driver intercepts calls directed to a mechanism used as a point of entry for the access.

33. (Original) The data processing system of claim 22, wherein the storing means comprises:

means for storing the association between the file and the program in a database.

34. (Original) The data processing system of claim 22, wherein associations are stored in a database, wherein the receiving means is a first receiving means, and further comprising:

second receiving means for receiving a request from a requestor to access the associations;

querying means for querying the database for the associations;

third receiving means for receiving a result from the database; and

returning means for returning the result returned from the database to the requestor.

35. (Cancel)

36. (Cancel)

37. (Original) The data processing system of claim 22, wherein the storing means comprises:

means for storing the association between the file and the program in at least one of a registry, file, and a file system.

38. (Currently Amended) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for tracking relationships between programs and data, the computer program product comprising:

first instructions for receiving a file access request from a particular program, wherein the file access request is for a particular file and is received at an operating system level and wherein the particular file is defined by a specified file name;

second instructions for creating an association between the specified file name and the particular program requesting the file access, in response to receiving the file access request; ~~and~~

third instructions, ~~for,~~ responsive to creating the association, for storing the association between the specified file name and the particular program, wherein the association is used for subsequent accesses to the file and is stored in relation to other stored associations, said other associations respectively corresponding to other ~~such that a stored association is stored for each~~ file names for which file access is requested by the particular program; and

fourth instructions for saving all of the stored associations for at least the life of the particular program.

39. (Original) The computer program product of claim 38, wherein the association is stored as meta data.

40. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 38, wherein the association includes a program name for the program.

41. (Original) The computer program product of claim 40, wherein the association further includes at least one of a location of the file, a time of file access, a date of file access, an extension for the file, and an identification of a user of the program.

42. (Original) The computer program product of claim 41, wherein the location of the file is in a remote data processing system.

43. (Original) The computer program product of claim 38, wherein the file request is one of a request to open the file, close the file, copy the file, or delete the file.

44. (Original) The computer program product of claim 38, wherein the program is a first program and wherein a request to open the file originates from the first program and a request to close the file originates from a second program.

45. (Original) The computer program product of claim 38, wherein the association includes the second program.

46. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 38, wherein the first instructions, the second instructions, and the third instructions are located within an operating system kernel.

47. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 38, wherein the first instructions, the second instructions, and the third instructions are located within a device driver.

48. (Original) The computer program product of claim 47, wherein the drive driver intercepts calls directed to a mechanism used as a point of entry for the access.

49. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 38, wherein the third instructions comprises:

sub-instructions for storing the association between the file and the program in a database.

50. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 38, wherein associations are stored in a database and further comprising:

~~fourth~~ fifth instructions for receiving a request from a requestor to access the associations;

~~fifth~~ sixth instructions for querying the database for the associations;

~~sixth~~ seventh instructions for receiving a result from the database; and

~~seventh~~ eighth instructions for returning the result returned from the database to the requestor.

51. (Cancel)

52. (Cancel)

53. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 38, wherein the third instructions comprises:

sub-instructions for storing the association between the file and the program in at least one of a registry, file, and a file system.